

General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 5522

February Session, 2006

\*\_\_\_\_\_HB05522JUD\_\_\_042806\_\_\_\_\*

## AN ACT CONCERNING ELECTRIC MARKET STRUCTURE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. Section 13a-126 of the 2006 supplement to the general
- 2 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
- 3 (*Effective from passage*):
- As used in this section, "public service facility" includes all
- 5 privately, publicly or cooperatively owned lines, facilities and systems
- 6 for producing, transmitting or distributing communications, cable
- 7 television, power, electricity, light, heat, gas, oil, crude products,
- 8 water, steam, waste, storm water not connected with highway
- 9 drainage and any other similar commodities, including fire and police
- signal systems and street lighting systems which directly or indirectly
- 11 serve the public. Whenever the commissioner determines that any
- 12 public service facility located within, on, along, over or under any land
- 13 comprising the right-of-way of a state highway or any other public
- 14 highway when necessitated by the construction or reconstruction of a
- state highway shall be readjusted or relocated in or removed from such
- 16 right-of-way, the commissioner shall issue an appropriate order to the
- 17 company, corporation or municipality owning or operating such
- 18 facility, and such company, corporation or municipality shall readjust,
- 19 relocate or remove the same promptly in accordance with such order;
- 20 provided an equitable share of the cost of such readjustment,

relocation or removal, including the cost of installing and constructing a facility of equal capacity in a new location, shall be borne by the state, except that the state shall not bear any share of the cost of a project to readjust, relocate or remove any facility, as defined in subsection (a) of section 16-50i, as amended, used for transmitting electricity or as an electric trunkline, for an electric distribution company, as defined in section 16-1 of the 2006 supplement to the general statutes. The Department of Transportation shall evaluate the total costs of such a project, including department costs for construction or reconstruction and electric distribution company costs for readjusting, relocating or removing such facility, so as to minimize the overall costs incurred by the state and the electric distribution company. The electric distribution company may provide the department with proposed alternatives to the relocation, readjustment or removal proposed by the department and shall be responsible for any changes to project costs attributable to adoption of the company's proposed alternative designs for such project, including changes to the area of the relocation, readjustment or removal and any incremental costs incurred by the department to evaluate such alternatives. If such electric distribution company and the department cannot agree on a plan for such project, the Commissioner of Transportation and the chairperson of the Department of Public Utility Control shall, on request of the company, jointly determine the alternative for the project. Such equitable share, in the case of or in connection with the construction or reconstruction of any limited access highway, shall be the entire cost, less the deductions provided in this section, and, in the case of or in connection with the construction or reconstruction of any other state highway, shall be such portion or all of the entire cost, less the deductions provided in this section, as may be fair and just under all the circumstances, but shall not be less than fifty per cent of such cost after the deductions provided in this section. In establishing the equitable share of the cost to be borne by the state, there shall be deducted from the cost of the readjusted, relocated or removed facilities a sum based on a consideration of the value of materials salvaged from existing installations, the cost of the original installation,

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the life expectancy of the original facility and the unexpired term of such life use. When any facility is removed from the right-of-way of a public highway to a private right-of-way, the state shall not pay for such private right-of-way, provided, when a municipally-owned facility is thus removed from a municipally-owned highway, the state shall pay for the private right-of-way needed by the municipality for such relocation. If the commissioner and the company, corporation or municipality owning or operating such facility cannot agree upon the share of the cost to be borne by the state, either may apply to the superior court for the judicial district within which such highway is situated, or, if said court is not in session, to any judge thereof, for a determination of the cost to be borne by the state, and said court or such judge, after causing notice of the pendency of such application to be given to the other party, shall appoint a state referee to make such determination. Such referee, having given at least ten days' notice to the parties interested of the time and place of the hearing, shall hear both parties, shall view such highway, shall take such testimony as such referee deems material and shall thereupon determine the amount of the cost to be borne by the state and immediately report to the court. If the report is accepted by the court, such determination shall, subject to right of appeal as in civil actions, be conclusive upon both parties.

Sec. 2. Section 16a-7c of the general statutes is amended by adding subsection (g) as follows (*Effective July 1, 2006*):

(NEW) (g) When evaluating submissions pursuant to subsection (f) of this section for a facility described in subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of section 16-50i that are in excess of twenty-five megawatts, the board shall perform a net energy analysis for each proposal. Such analysis shall include all embodied energy requirements used in the materials for initial construction of the facility and over the useful lifetime of the facility. The analysis shall be expressed in a dimensionless unit as an energy profit ratio of energy generated by the facility to energy expended in plant construction, maintenance and total fuel cycle energy requirements over the useful lifetime of the

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90 facility. The boundary for both the fuel cycle and materials for the 91 facility construction and maintenance shall be at both the point of 92 primary material extraction and include, but not be limited to, such 93 subsequent steps as transportation, refinement and energy for delivery 94 to the end consumer. The results of said net energy analysis shall be 95 included in the results forwarded to the Connecticut Siting Council 96 pursuant to subsection (f) of this section. For purposes of this 97 subsection, "net energy" means the heat energy contained in a fuel 98 minus the energy used to extract the fuel from the environment, refine 99 it to a socially useful state, and deliver it to consumers, and "embodied 100 energy" means the total energy used to build and maintain a process, 101 expressed in calorie equivalents of one type of energy.

Sec. 3. Subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of section 16-50p of the 2006 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2006*):

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- (c) (1) The council shall not grant a certificate for a facility described in subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of section 16-50i, as amended, either as proposed or as modified by the council, unless (A) it finds and determines a public benefit for the facility, and (B) the facility, except for an electric generating facility that will use nuclear materials as fuel, will operate with dual fuel capacity.
- Sec. 4. (Effective from passage) Not later than September 1, 2006, the Department of Public Utility Control shall conduct a contested case proceeding, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes, to analyze the appropriate number of linemen that are necessary for an electric distribution company to maintain, repair and extend its electric distribution lines under normal circumstances and under extraordinary circumstances, including, but not limited to, storm conditions. Not later than January 1, 2007, the department shall submit a report with the results of such analysis to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to energy in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

Sec. 5. Subsection (a) of section 16-19e of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2006*):

(a) In the exercise of its powers under the provisions of this title, the Department of Public Utility Control shall examine and regulate the transfer of existing assets and franchises, the expansion of the plant and equipment of existing public service companies, the operations and internal workings of public service companies and the establishment of the level and structure of rates in accordance with the following principles: (1) That there is a clear public need for the service being proposed or provided; (2) that the public service company shall be fully competent to provide efficient and adequate service to the public in that such company is technically, financially and managerially expert and efficient; (3) that the department and all public service companies shall perform all of their respective public responsibilities with economy, efficiency and care for the public safety, and so as to promote economic development within the state with consideration for energy and water conservation, energy efficiency and the development and utilization of renewable sources of energy and for the prudent management of the natural environment; (4) that the level and structure of rates be sufficient, but no more than sufficient, to allow public service companies to cover their operating costs including, but not limited to, appropriate staffing levels, and capital costs, to attract needed capital and to maintain their financial integrity, and yet provide appropriate protection to the relevant public interests, both existing and foreseeable which shall include, but not be limited to, reasonable costs of security of assets, facilities and equipment that are incurred solely for the purpose of responding to security needs associated with the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, and the continuing war on terrorism; (5) that the level and structure of rates charged customers shall reflect prudent and efficient management of the franchise operation; and (6) that the rates, charges, conditions of service and categories of service of the companies not discriminate against customers which utilize renewable energy sources

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- 157 cogeneration technology to meet a portion of their energy 158 requirements.
- 159 Sec. 6. (Effective from passage) Not later than September 1, 2006, the Department of Public Utility Control shall conduct a contested case 160 161 proceeding, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 of the 162 general statutes, to determine the most efficacious way to notify the 163 public regarding an electric power outage and the status of an electric 164 distribution company's efforts to restore electricity to a particular area 165 of the state. Not later than January 1, 2007, the department shall submit 166 a report with the results of such proceeding to the joint standing 167 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters 168 relating to energy in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of 169 the general statutes.
- 170 Sec. 7. (Effective from passage) Not later than September 1, 2006, the 171 Department of Public Utility Control and the Connecticut Siting 172 Council shall conduct a contested case proceeding, in accordance with 173 the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes, to analyze the 174 current compliance status of electric generation facilities with on-site 175 fuel storage requirements, to determine how much fuel storage is 176 necessary to generate an electric generation facility at peak load for a 177 forty-eight-hour period, and to analyze what on-site fuel storage 178 resources are currently available in the state. Not later than January 1, 179 2007, the department shall submit a report with the results of such 180 proceeding to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly 181 having cognizance of matters relating to energy in accordance with the 182 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.
- Sec. 8. Section 16-32g of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2006*):
- Not later than January 1, [1988] <u>2007</u>, each electric or electric distribution company shall submit to the Department of Public Utility Control a plan for the maintenance of poles, wires, conduits or other fixtures, along public highways or streets for the transmission or

- 189 distribution of electric current, owned, operated, managed or 190 controlled by such company, in such format as the department shall 191 prescribe. Such plan shall include a summary of appropriate staffing 192 levels necessary for the maintenance of said fixtures and a program for 193 the trimming of tree branches and limbs located in close proximity to 194 overhead electric wires where such branches and limbs may cause 195 damage to such electric wires. The department shall review each plan 196 and may issue such orders as may be necessary to ensure compliance 197 with this section. The department may require each electric or electric 198 distribution company to submit an updated plan at such time and 199 containing such information as the department may prescribe. The 200 department shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions 201 of chapter 54, to carry out the provisions of this section.
- Sec. 9. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2006*) As used in sections 10 to 25, inclusive, of this act:
- 204 (1) "Microgrid" means small, locally controlled electric distribution 205 systems interconnected with electric distribution company facilities; 206 and
  - (2) "Energy improvement district distributed resources" means one or more of the following: (A) Customer-side distributed resources, as defined in section 16-1 of the 2006 supplement to the general statutes; (B) grid-side distributed resources, as defined in said section 16-1; (C) combined heat and power systems, as defined in said section 16-1; (D) Class III renewable energy sources, as defined in said section 16-1; and (E) microgrids;
- 214 (3) "Project" means the acquisition, purchase, construction, 215 reconstruction, improvement or extension of one or more of energy 216 improvement district distributed resources.
  - Sec. 10. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2006*) Any municipality may, by vote of its legislative body, or, in the case of a municipality in which the legislative body is a town meeting, its board of selectmen, establish an energy improvement district within such municipality. The affairs

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- 221 of any such district shall be administered by an Energy Improvement 222 District Board, comprising not less than five and not more than seven 223 members. The members of any such board shall be appointed by the 224 chief elected official of the municipality and shall serve for such term 225 as the legislative body may prescribe and until their successors are 226 appointed and have qualified. Vacancies shall be filed by the chief 227 elected official for the unexpired portion of the term. The members of 228 each such board shall serve without compensation, except for 229 necessary expenses.
  - Sec. 11. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2006) An Energy Improvement District Board shall have power over the planning, development, funding, building and operation of energy improvement district distributed resources in its district, except on state or federally owned properties, with a view to the increase and efficiency, reliability and the furtherance of commerce and industry in the energy improvement district. The board shall coordinate its activities with regard to such resources with relevant state, regional and federal agencies. The board shall make a thorough investigation of electric distribution system conditions in the district and such other places as it may deem proper, and shall prepare a comprehensive plan for the development of energy improvement district distributed resources in the district. The board may lease or acquire office space and equip the same with suitable furniture and supplies for the performance of work of the board, and may employ such personnel as may be necessary for such performance. The board also shall have power to:
    - (1) Sue and be sued;
- 247 (2) Have a seal and alter the same;
- 248 (3) Confer with any body or official having to do with electric power 249 distribution facilities within and without the district, and hold public 250 hearings as to such facilities;
  - (4) Confer with electric distribution companies with reference to the development of electric distribution facilities in such district and the

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253 coordination of the same;

- (5) Determine the location, type, size and construction of requisite energy improvement district distributed resources, subject to the approval of any department, commission or official of the United States, the state or the municipality where federal, state or municipal statute or regulation requires it;
  - (6) Own, lease, pledge, encumber, erect, construct, improve, rehabilitate, make, equip and maintain energy improvement district distributed resources in the district and for any such purpose acquire in the name of the Energy Improvement District Board by purchase, grant, gift or condemnation, except as limited by this section, real property, including easements therein, lands under water and riparian rights, and hold, improve, develop, mortgage, pledge, exchange, sell, convey or otherwise dispose of any such property in such manner as the board shall determine;
  - (7) Make surveys, maps and plans for, and estimates of the cost of, the development and operation of requisite energy improvement district distributed resources and for the coordination of such facilities with existing agencies, both public and private, with the view of increasing the efficiency of the electric distribution system in the district and in the furtherance of commerce and industry in the district;
  - (8) Make contracts and leases, loans and execute all instruments necessary or convenient to carry out their duties under the provision of this section, including the lending of proceeds of bonds issued in accordance with subdivision (9) of this section, to owners, lessees or occupants of facilities in the energy improvement district;
  - (9) Fix fees, rates, rentals or other charges for the purpose of all energy improvement district distributed resources owned by the Energy Improvements District Board and collect such fees, rates, rentals and other charges for such facilities owned by the board, which fees, rates, rentals or other charges shall be sufficient to comply with all covenants and agreements with the holders of any bonds issued

pursuant to section 12 of this act;

- (10) Operate and maintain all energy improvement district distributed resources owned or leased by the board and use the revenues from such resources for the corporate purposes of the board in accordance with any covenants or agreements contained in the proceedings authorizing the issuance of bonds pursuant to section 12 of this act;
  - (11) Regulate and supervise the construction of all energy improvement district distributed resources constructed or installed by any private individual or corporation, and regulate the operation of all privately owned energy improvement district distributed resources insofar as such operation may adversely affect the flow of electric power or the enforcement of approved plans for the development of energy improvement district distributed resources. The power granted by this subdivision shall be subject to the rules, regulations or other directives of any federal or state department, commission or other agency having jurisdiction and such grant of power shall not operate to deprive any person or corporation, private or public, of any property without due process of law;
  - (12) Accept gifts, grants, loans or contributions for the United States, the state or any agency or instrumentality of either of them, or a person or corporation, by conveyance, bequest or otherwise, and expend the proceeds for any purpose of the board and, as necessary, contract with the United States, the state or any agency or instrumentality of either of them, to accept gifts, grants, loans or contributions on such terms and conditions as may be provided by the law authorizing the same;
- (13) Maintain staff to promote and develop the movement of commerce through the energy improvement district; and
- 313 (14) Use the officers, employees, facilities and equipment of the 314 municipality, with the consent of the municipality, and pay a proper 315 portion of the compensation or cost.

Sec. 12. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2006) (a) An Energy Improvement District Board may, from time to time, issue bonds subject to the approval of the legislative body or, in the case of a municipality in which the legislative body is a town meeting, its board of selectmen, in the municipality in which the energy improvement district is located, for the purpose of paying all or any part of the cost of acquiring, purchasing, constructing, reconstructing, improving or extending any energy improvement district distributed resources project and acquiring necessary land and equipment thereof, or for any other authorized purpose of the board. The board may issue such types of bonds as it may determine, including, but not limited to, bonds payable as to principal and interest: (1) From its revenues generally; (2) exclusively from the income and revenues of a particular project; or (3) exclusively from the income and revenues of certain designated projects, whether or not they are financed in whole or in part from the proceeds of such bonds. Any such bonds may be additionally secured by a pledge of any grant or contribution from a participating municipality, the state or any political subdivision, agency or instrumentality thereof, any federal agency or any private corporation, copartnership, association or individual, or a pledge of any income or revenues of the board, or a mortgage on any project or other property of the board, provided such pledge shall not create any liability on the entity making such grant or contribution beyond the amount of such grant or contribution. Whenever and for so long as any board has issued and has outstanding bonds, the board shall fix, charge and collect rates, rents, fees and other charges in accordance with section 14 of this act. Neither the members of the board nor any person executing the bonds shall be liable personally on the bonds by reason of the issuance thereof. The bonds and other obligations shall so state on the face, shall not be a debt of the state or any political subdivision thereof, except when the board or a participating municipality which in accordance with section 21 of this act has guaranteed payment of principal and of interest on the same, and no person other than the board or such a public body shall be liable thereon, nor shall such bonds or obligations be payable out of any

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funds or properties other than those of the board or such a participating municipality. Such bonds shall not constitute an indebtedness within the meaning of any statutory limitation on the indebtedness of any participating municipality. Bonds of the board are declared to be issued for an essential public and governmental purpose. In anticipation of the sale of such revenue bonds the board may issue negotiable bond anticipation notes and may renew the same from time to time, but the maximum maturity of any such note, including renewals thereof, shall not exceed five years from the date of issue of the original note. Such notes shall be paid from any revenues of the board available therefor and not otherwise pledged, or from the proceeds of sale of the revenue bonds of the Energy Improvement District Board in anticipation of which they were issued. The notes shall be issued in the same manner as the revenue bonds. Such notes and the resolution or resolutions authorizing the same may contain any provisions, conditions or limitations which a bond resolution of the board may contain.

- (b) An Energy Improvement District Board may issue bonds as serial bonds or as term bonds, or both. Bonds shall be authorized by resolution of the members of the authority and shall bear such date or dates, mature at such time or times, not exceeding fifty years from their respective dates, bear interest at such rate or rates, or have provisions for the manner of determining such rate or rates, payable at such time or times, be in such denominations, be in such form, either coupon or registered, carry such registration privileges, be executed in such manner, be payable in lawful money of the United States of America at such place or places, and be subject to such terms of redemption, as such resolution or resolutions may provide. The revenue bonds or notes may be sold at public or private sale for such price or prices as the Energy Improvement District Board shall determine. Pending preparation of the definitive bonds, the Energy Improvement District Board may issue interim receipts or certificates which shall be exchanged for such definitive bonds.
- (c) Any resolution or resolutions authorizing any revenue bonds or

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any issue of revenue bonds may contain provisions, which shall be part of the contract with the holders of the revenue bonds to be authorized, as to: (1) Pledging all or any part of the revenues of a project or any revenue-producing contract or contracts made by the Energy Improvement District Board with any individual, partnership, corporation or association or other body, public or private, to secure the payment of the revenue bonds or of any particular issue of revenue bonds, subject to such agreements with bondholders as may then exist; (2) the rentals, fees and other charges to be charged, and the amounts to be raised in each year thereby, and the use and disposition of the revenues; (3) the setting aside of reserves or sinking funds or other funds or accounts as the board may establish and the regulation and disposition thereof, including requirements that any such funds and accounts be held separate from or not be commingled with other funds of the board; (4) limitations on the right of the board or its agent to restrict and regulate the use of the project; (5) limitations on the purpose to which the proceeds of sale of any issue of revenue bonds then or thereafter to be issued may be applied and pledging such proceeds to secure the payment of the revenue bonds or any issue of the revenue bonds; (6) limitations on the issuance of additional bonds, the terms upon which additional bonds may be issued and secured, the refunding of outstanding bonds; (7) the procedure, if any, by which the terms of any contract with bondholders may be amended or abrogated, the amount of bonds the holders of which must consent thereto, and the manner in which such consent may be given; (8) limitations on the amount of moneys derived from the project to be expended for operating, administrative or other expenses of the board; (9) defining the acts or omissions to act that shall constitute a default in the duties of the board to holders of its obligations and providing the rights and remedies of such holders in the event of a default; (10) the mortgaging of a project and the site thereof for the purpose of securing the bondholder; and (11) provisions for the execution reimbursement agreements or similar agreements in connection with credit facilities, including, but not limited to, letters of credit or policies of bond insurance, remarketing agreements and agreements for the

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- (d) If any member whose signature or a facsimile of whose signature appears on any bonds or coupons ceases to be such member 423 before delivery of such bonds, such signature or such facsimile shall 424 nevertheless be valid and sufficient for all purposes the same as if he 425 had remained in office until such delivery. Notwithstanding the 426 provisions of sections 10 to 25, inclusive, of this act, or any recitals in 427 any bonds issued under the provisions of this section, all such bonds 428 shall be deemed to be negotiable instruments under the provisions of 429 the general statutes.
- 430 (e) Unless otherwise provided by the ordinance creating the Energy 431 Improvement District Board, bonds may be issued under the 432 provisions of this section, without obtaining the consent of the state or 433 of any political subdivision thereof, and without any other proceedings 434 or the happening of other conditions or things than those proceedings, 435 conditions or things which are specifically required by sections 10 to 436 25, inclusive, of this act.
  - (f) A Energy Improvement District Board may, out of any of any funds available to it, purchase its bonds or notes. The Energy Improvement District Board may hold, pledge, cancel or resell such bonds, subject to and in accordance with agreements with bondholders.
  - (g) An Energy Improvement District Board shall cause a copy of any bond resolutions adopted by it to be filed for public inspection in its office and in the office of the clerk of each participating municipality and may thereupon cause to be published at least once, in a newspaper published or circulating in each participating municipality, a notice stating the fact and date of such adoption and the places where such bond resolution has been so filed for public inspection and the date of the first publication of such notice and also stating that any action or proceeding of any kind or nature in any court questioning the validity or proper authorization of bonds provided for by the bond resolution,

or the validity of any covenants, agreements or contracts provided for by the bond resolution, shall be commenced not later than twenty days after the first publication of such notice. If any such notice is published and if no action or proceeding question the validity or proper authorization of bonds provided for by the bond resolution referred to in such notice, or the validity of any covenants, agreements, contracts provided for by the bond resolution is commenced or instituted not later than twenty days after the first publication of said notice, then all residents and taxpayers and owners of property in each participating municipality and all other persons shall be forever barred and foreclosed from instituting or commencing any action or proceeding in any court, or from pleading any defense to any action or proceeding, questioning the validity or proper authorization of such bonds, or the validity of such covenants, agreements or contracts, and said bonds, covenants, agreements and contracts shall be conclusively deemed to be valid and binding obligations in accordance with their terms and tenor.

(h) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, (1) the state shall not have any liability or responsibility with regard to any obligation issued by the board, and (2) no political subdivision of the state shall have any liability or responsibility with regard to any obligation issued by the board except as expressly provided by sections 10 to 25, inclusive, of this act.

Sec. 13. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2006) An Energy Improvement District Board may secure any bonds issued under the provisions of section 12 of this act by a trust indenture by way of conveyance, deed of trust or mortgage of any project or any other property of the board, whether or not financed in whole or in part from the proceeds of such bonds, or by a trust agreement by and between the board and a corporate trustee, which may be any trust company or bank having the powers of a trust company within or without the state or by both such conveyance, deed of trust or mortgage and indenture or trust agreement. Such trust indenture or agreement may pledge or assign any or all fees, rents and other charges to be received or proceeds of

any contract or contracts pledged, and may convey or mortgage any property of the board. Such trust indenture or agreement may contain such provisions for protecting and enforcing the right and remedies of the bondholders as may be reasonable and proper and not in violation of law, including provisions that have been specifically authorized to be included in any resolution or resolutions of the board authorizing the issue of bonds. Any bank or trust company incorporated under the laws of the state may act as depository of the proceeds of such bonds or of revenues or other moneys and may furnish such indemnifying bonds or pledge such securities as may be required by the board. Such trust indenture may set forth rights and remedies of the bondholders and of the trustee, and may restrict the individual right of action by bondholders. In addition to the foregoing, such trust indenture or agreement may contain such other provisions as the board may deem reasonable and proper for the security of the bondholders. All expenses incurred in carrying out the provisions of such trust indenture or agreement may be treated as part of the cost of a project.

Sec. 14. (Effective October 1, 2006) (a) An Energy Improvement District Board may fix, revise, charge and collect rates, rents, fees and charges for the use of and for the services furnished or to be furnished by each project and to contract with any person, partnership, association or corporation, or other body, public or private, in respect thereof. Such rates, rents, fees and charges shall be fixed and adjusted in respect of the aggregate of rates, rents, fees and charges from such project so as to provide funds sufficient with other revenues, if any, (1) to pay the cost of maintaining, repairing and operating the project and each and every portion thereof, to the extent that the payment of such cost has not otherwise been adequately provided for, (2) to pay the principal of and the interest on outstanding revenue bonds of the board issued in respect of such project as the same shall become due and payable, and (3) to create and maintain reserves required or provided for in any resolution authorizing, or trust agreement securing, such revenue bonds of the board. Such rates, rents, fees and charges shall not be subject to supervision or regulation by any

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department, commission, board, body, bureau or agency of this state other than the board. A sufficient amount of the revenues derived in respect of a project, except such part of such revenues as may be necessary to pay the cost of maintenance, repair and operation and to provide reserves and for renewals, replacements, extensions, enlargements and improvements as may be provided for in the resolution authorizing the issuance of any revenue bonds of the board or in the trust agreement securing the same, shall be set aside at such regular intervals as may be provided in such resolution or trust agreement in a sinking or other similar fund which is hereby pledged to, and charged with, the payment of the principal of and the interest on such revenue bonds as the same shall become due, and the redemption price or the purchase price of bonds retired by call or purchase as therein provided. Such pledge shall be valid and binding from the time when the pledge is made; the rates, rents, fees and charges and other revenues or other moneys so pledged and thereafter received by the board shall immediately be subject to the lien of any such pledge, without any physical delivery thereof or further act, and the lien of any such pledge shall be valid and binding as against all parties having claims of any kind in tort, contract or otherwise against the board, irrespective of whether such parties have notice thereof. Neither the resolution nor any trust indenture or agreement by which a pledge is created need be filed or recorded except in the records of the board. The use and disposition of moneys to the credit of such sinking or other similar fund shall be subject to the provisions of the resolution authorizing the issuance of such bonds or of such trust agreement. Except as may otherwise be provided in such resolution or such trust indenture or agreement, such sinking or other similar fund shall be a fund for all revenue bonds issued to finance a project of such board without distinction or priority of one over another.

(b) All moneys received by the board pursuant to sections 10 to 25, inclusive, of this act, whether as proceeds from the sale of bonds or as revenues, shall be deemed to be trust funds to be held and applied solely as provided pursuant to this section.

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Sec. 15. (Effective October 1, 2006) Any holder of bonds, notes, certificates or other evidences of borrowing issued under the provisions of section 12 of this act, or of any of the coupons appertaining thereto, and the trustee under any trust indenture or agreement, except to the extent the right may be restricted by such trust indenture or agreement, may, either at law or in equity, by suit, action, injunction, mandamus or other proceedings, protect and enforce any and all rights under the provisions of the general statutes or granted by sections 10 to 25, inclusive, of this act, or under such trust indenture or agreement or the resolution authorizing the issuance of such bonds, notes or certificates, and may enforce and compel the performance of all duties required by said section or by such trust indenture or agreement or solution to be performed by the Energy Improvement District Board or by any officer or agent thereof, including the fixing, charging and collection of fees, rents and other charges.

Sec. 16. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2006) An Energy Improvement District Board, in the exercise of its powers granted pursuant to sections 10 to 25, inclusive, of this act, shall be for the benefit of the inhabitants of the state, for the increase of their commerce and for the promotion of their safety, health, welfare, convenience and prosperity, and as the operation and maintenance of any project which the board is authorized to undertake constitute the performance of an essential governmental function, no board shall be required to pay any taxes or assessments upon any project acquired and constructed by it under the provisions of said sections. The bonds, notes, certificates or other evidences of debt issued under the provisions of section 12 of this act, their transfer and the income therefrom, including any profit made on the sale thereof, shall at all times be free and exempt from taxation by the state and by any political subdivision thereof.

Sec. 17. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2006*) Bonds issued by an Energy Improvement District Board pursuant to section 12 of this act, shall be securities in which all public officers and public bodies of the state and its political subdivisions, all insurance companies, trust companies,

588 banking associations, investment companies and executors, 589 administrators, trustees and other fiduciaries may properly and legally 590 invest funds, including capital in their control or belonging to them. 591 Such bonds shall be securities that may properly and legally be 592 deposited with and received by any state or municipal officer or any 593 agency or political subdivision of the state for any purpose for which 594 the deposit of bonds or obligations is now or may hereafter be 595 authorized by law.

Sec. 18. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2006) For the purpose of aiding an Energy Improvement District Board and cooperating in the planning, undertaking, acquisition, construction or operation of any distributed resource facility, a municipality may (1) acquire real property in its name for such distributed resource facility or for the widening of existing roads, streets, parkways, avenues or highways or for new roads, streets, parkways, avenues or highways to any such distributed resource facility, or partly for such purposes and partly for other municipal purposes, by purchase or condemnation in the manner provided by law for the acquisition of real property by such municipality, (2) furnish, dedicate, close, vacate, pave, install, grade, regrade, plan or replan parks, streets, roads, roadways, alleys, sidewalks or other places which it is otherwise empowered to undertake, and (3) do all things necessary or convenient to aid and cooperate in the planning, undertaking, construction or operation of any such distributed resource facility, and cause services to be furnished to the board of any character which such municipality is otherwise empowered to furnish, and to incur the entire expense thereof.

Sec. 19. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2006) A municipality may, by ordinance, and any other governmental unit shall, without any referendum or public or competitive bidding, and any person may sell, lease, lend, grant or convey to an Energy Improvement District Board, or to permit a board to use, maintain or operate as part of any distributed resource facility, any real or personal property that may be necessary or useful and convenient for the purposes of the board and

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accepted by the board. Any such sale, lease, loan, grant, conveyance or permit may be made or given with or without consideration and for a specified or an unlimited period of time and under any agreement and on any terms and conditions that may be approved by such municipality, governmental unit or person and that may be agreed to by the board in conformity with its contract with the holders of any bonds. Subject to any such contracts with the holders of bonds, the board may enter into and perform any and all agreements with respect to property so purchased, leased, borrowed, received or accepted by it, including agreements for the assumption of principal or interest or both of indebtedness of such municipality, governmental unit or person or of any mortgage or lien existing with respect to such property or for the operation and maintenance of such property as part of any energy improvement district distributed resources facility.

Sec. 20. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2006) A municipality, governmental unit or person may enter into and perform any lease or other agreement with any Energy Improvement District Board for the lease or other agreement with any municipality, governmental unit or person of all or any part of any energy improvement district distributed resource facility or facilities. Any such lease or other agreement may provide for the payment to the board by such municipality, governmental unit or person, annually or otherwise, of such sum or sums of money, computed at fixed amount or by any formula or in any other manner, as may be so fixed or computed. Any such lease or other agreement may be made and entered into for a term beginning currently or at some future or contingent date and with or without consideration and for a specified or unlimited time and on any terms and conditions which may be approved by such municipality, governmental unit or person and which may be agreed to by the board in conformity with its contract with the holders of any bonds, and shall be valid and binding on such municipality, governmental unit or person whether or not an appropriation is made thereby prior to authorization or execution of such lease or other agreement. Such municipality, governmental unit or person shall do

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all acts and things necessary, convenient or desirable to carry out and perform any such lease or other agreement entered into by it and to provide for the payment or discharge of any obligation thereunder in the same manner as other obligations of such municipality, governmental unit or person.

Sec. 21. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2006) For the purpose of aiding an Energy Improvement District Board and cooperating in the planning, undertaking, acquisition, construction or operation of any distributed resource facility, a municipality, by ordinance or by resolution of its legislative body, shall have power from time to time and for such period and upon such terms, with or without consideration, as may be provided by such resolution or ordinance and accepted by the board, (1) to appropriate moneys for the purposes of the board, and to loan or donate such money to the board in such installments and upon such terms as may be agreed upon with the board, (2) to covenant and agree with the board to pay to or on the order of the board annually or at shorter intervals as a subsidy for the promotion of its purposes not more than such sums of money as may be stated in such resolution or ordinance or computed in accordance therewith, (3) upon authorization by it in accordance with law of the performance of any act or thing which it is empowered by law to authorize and perform and after appropriation of the moneys, if any, necessary for such performance, to covenant and agree with the board to do and perform such act or thing and as to the time, manner and other details of its doing and performance, and (4) to appropriate money for all or any part of the cost of acquisition or construction of such facility, and, in accordance with the limitations and any exceptions thereto and in accordance with procedure prescribed by law, to incur indebtedness, borrow money and issue its negotiable bonds for the purpose of financing such distributed resource facility and appropriation, and to pay the proceeds of such bonds to the board.

Sec. 22. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2006*) For the purpose of aiding an Energy Improvement District Board in the planning, undertaking, acquisition, construction or operation of any distributed resource

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facility, a participating municipality may, pursuant to resolution adopted by its legislative body in the manner provided for adoption of a resolution authorizing bonds of such municipality and with or without consideration and upon such terms and conditions as may be agreed to by and between the municipality and the board, unconditionally guarantee the punctual payment of the principal of and interest on any bonds of the board and pledge the full faith and credit of the municipality to the payment thereof. Any guarantee of bonds of the board made pursuant to this section shall be evidenced by endorsement thereof on such bonds, executed in the name of the municipality and on its behalf by such officer thereof as may be designated in the resolution authorizing such guaranty, and such municipality shall thereupon and thereafter by obligated to pay the principal of and interest on said bonds in the same manner and to the same extent as in the case of bonds issued by it. As part of the guarantee of the municipality for payment of principal and interest on the bonds, the municipality may pledge to and agree with the owners of bonds issued under this chapter and with those persons who may enter into contracts with the municipality or the board or any successor agency pursuant to the provisions of this chapter that it will not limit or alter the rights thereby vested in the bond owners, the board or any contracting party until such bonds, together with the interest thereon, are fully met and discharged and such contracts are fully performed on the part of the municipality or the board, provided nothing in this subsection shall preclude such limitation or alteration if and when adequate provisions shall be made by law for the protection of the owners of such bonds of the municipality or the board or those entering into such contracts with the municipality or the board. The board is authorized to include this pledge and undertaking for the municipality in such bonds or contracts. To the extent provided in such agreement or agreements, the obligations of the municipality thereunder shall be obligatory upon the municipality and the inhabitants and property thereof, and thereafter the municipality shall appropriate in each year during the term of such agreement, and there shall be available on or before the date when the same are payable, an

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amount of money that, together with other revenue available for such purpose, shall be sufficient to pay such principal and interest guaranteed by it and payable thereunder in that year, and there shall be included in the tax levy for each such year in an amount that, together with other revenues available for such purpose, shall be sufficient to meet such appropriation. Any such agreement shall be valid, binding and enforceable against the municipality if approved by action of the legislative body of such municipality. Any such guaranty of bonds of the board may be made, and any resolution authorizing such guaranty may be adopted, notwithstanding any statutory debt or other limitations, but the principal amount of bonds so guaranteed shall, after their issuance, be included in the gross debt of such municipality for the purpose of determining the indebtedness of such municipality under subsection (b) of section 7-374 of the general statutes. The principal amount of bonds so guaranteed and included in gross debt shall be deducted and is declared to be and to constitute a deduction from such gross debt under and for all the purposes of said subsection (b) of section 7-374, (1) from and after the time of issuance of said bonds until the end of the fiscal year beginning next after the completion of acquisition and construction of the distributed resource facility to be financed from the proceeds of such bonds, and (2) during any subsequent fiscal year if the revenues of the board in the preceding fiscal year are sufficient to pay its expenses of operation and maintenance in such year and all amounts payable in such year on account of the principal and interest on all such guaranteed bonds, all bonds of the municipality issued as provided in this section and all bonds of the Energy Improvement District Board issued under section 12 of this act.

Sec. 23. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2006*) Any lease or other agreement, and any instruments making or evidencing the same, may be pledged or assigned by the board to secure its bonds and thereafter may not be modified except as provided by the terms of such instrument or by the terms of such pledge or assignment.

Sec. 24. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2006) All property of an Energy

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Improvement District Board shall be exempt from levy and sale by virtue of an execution and no execution or other judicial process shall issue against the same nor shall any judgment against the board be a charge or lien upon its property, provided nothing in this section shall apply to or limit the rights of the holder of any bonds to pursue any remedy for the enforcement of any pledge or lien given by the board on its facility revenues or other moneys.

Sec. 25. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2006) An Energy Improvement District Board and the municipality in which any property of the board is located may enter into agreements with respect to the payment by the board to such municipality of annual sums of money in lieu of taxes on such property in such amount as may be agreed upon between the board and the municipality. The board may make, and the municipality may accept, such payments and apply them in the manner in which taxes may be applied in such municipality, provided no such annual payment with respect to any parcel of such property shall exceed the amount of taxes paid thereon for the taxable year immediately prior to the time of its acquisition by the board.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following			
sections:			
Section 1	from passage	13a-126	
Sec. 2	July 1, 2006	16a-7c	
Sec. 3	October 1, 2006	16-50p(c)(1)	
Sec. 4	from passage	New section	
Sec. 5	October 1, 2006	16-19e(a)	
Sec. 6	from passage	New section	
Sec. 7	from passage	New section	
Sec. 8	October 1, 2006	16-32g	
Sec. 9	October 1, 2006	New section	
Sec. 10	October 1, 2006	New section	
Sec. 11	October 1, 2006	New section	
Sec. 12	October 1, 2006	New section	
Sec. 13	October 1, 2006	New section	
Sec. 14	October 1, 2006	New section	
Sec. 15	October 1, 2006	New section	

Sec. 16	October 1, 2006	New section
Sec. 17	October 1, 2006	New section
Sec. 18	October 1, 2006	New section
Sec. 19	October 1, 2006	New section
Sec. 20	October 1, 2006	New section
Sec. 21	October 1, 2006	New section
Sec. 22	October 1, 2006	New section
Sec. 23	October 1, 2006	New section
Sec. 24	October 1, 2006	New section
Sec. 25	October 1, 2006	New section

ET Joint Favorable Subst.

**PD** Joint Favorable

FIN Joint Favorable

TRA Joint Favorable

JUD Joint Favorable